(ग) क्या उर्दू समाचारों का स्तर बहुत घटिया है ; यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ; और

(घ) सरकार इस संबंध में क्या कार्रवाही कर रही है ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री के. पी. सिंह देव) : (क) और (ख) आकाशवाणी, लखनऊ में समाचार-वाचक-एवं-अनुवादक (उर्दू) के पद पर कार्यरत व्यक्ति द्वारा अधिवर्षिता की आयु प्राप्त करने के बाद से उर्दू समाचारों का प्रसारण, इस भाषा में प्रवीणता प्राप्त उपयुक्त व्यक्तियों की नैमित्तक आधार पर सेवाओं के उपयोग द्वारा तथा आकाशवाणी के विदेश सेवा प्रभाग में कार्यरत नियमित समाचार वाचकों को प्रतिनियुक्ति करके किया जा रहा है ।

(ग) जी, नहीं ।

(घ) आकाशवाणी लखनऊ, में समाचारवाचक एवं अनुवादक (उर्दू) के पद पर भर्ती संबंधी कार्य चल रहा है।

Time Allocation to Tamil Language Programme on Doordarshan

4438. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of hours being allotted to Tamil language in Delhi Doordarshan in a week and a month;

(b) whether there are programmes in Delhi Doordarshan regarding teaching of languages in the Eighth Schedule of Indian Constitution;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) if so, whether such type of programmes bring out national integration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) No specific time has been allotted for programmes to be telecast in a particular language by Doordarshan Kendra, Delhi.

(b) to (d) While direct teaching of the regional language of a particular state in another one does help in promotion of national integration, yet, Doordarshan Kendra Delhi is unable to telecast such programmes on account of constraints of time and resources.

Guarantee Money from Producers

4439. SHRI KANAKSINH MOHANSINH MANGROLA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Doordarshan authorities have been demanding Guarantee Money from producers seeking prime-time slots on National Network and DD Metro; if so, the details thereof and under what rules of guidelines the Doordarshan authorities have started asking for such huge guarantee amounts from producers;

(b) what are the names of producers who have so far given an undertaking of providing Guarantee Money to Doordarshan so far with the names of their serials, time-slot and the dates of telecast with the amount of Guarantee Money offered;

(c) whether the criteria adopted in the case of producers will also be applicable to all prime-time serials on National Network and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) what will be difference in the Guarantee Money amounts applicable between the serials on Network and Metro channels;

(e) whether the Guarantee Money asked for by the Doordarshan authority is arbitrary and there is lot of resentment amongst producers; and

(f) if so, what steps are being taken to stop this practice of asking Guarantee Money from producers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (f) Yes, Sir. The matter is, however being reviewed.

Coverage to Sport Events on Doordarshan

4440. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan is giving adequate coverage to sports and athletics events held in different States;

(b) whether it is a fact that coverage of sports events in district towns would enhance sports consciousness in the country; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to direct Doordarshan to enhance coverage of sports and games in district, towns and rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b): Yes, Sir.

(c) Doordarshan shall continue to provide adequate coverage to sports events held in different parts of the country, including rural areas, district towns, either through live telecasts, where feasible or through recording of the events by its camera teams for a subsequent telecast in the regional/national network.

Training Course for Lighting Assistant in Doordarshan

4441. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have introduced a crash course for Lighting assistants in Doordarshan;

(b) if so, what is the main objective of introducing such a course;

(c) whether Adhocism has been going on in Doordarshan in a large scale; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The basic purpose of the course is to impart the requisite training to the Lighting Assistants working in Doordarshan to enable them to become eligible for promotion as Cameraman grade III, a cadre in which a large number of vacancies exist at present.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Independence of Press

4442. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Uttar Pradesh has unleashed a wave of terror on the independence of press; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government of India therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINNGH DEO): (a) No instances of this nature have come to the notice of the Government.

(b) Does not arise.